# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 09/690,273 | 10/17/2000 | Fan Kong | CSCO2337 | 2199 |

| | | | EXAMINER |
|---|---|---|---|
| 29989    7590    03/12/2004 | | | TANG, KUO LIANG J |

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|---|---|
| 2122 | |

DATE MAILED: 03/12/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
|---|---|---|
| **Office Action Summary** | 09/690,273 | KONG, FAN |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Kuo-Liang J Tang | 2122 | |

*-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --*

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *10/17/2000*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.     2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-46* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-46* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *3*.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

## DETAILED ACTION

1.      Claims 1-46 are pending and have been examined. The priority date for this application is

10/17/2000.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2.      Claims 1-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Layman, US

Patent No. 5,263,174.

As Per Claim 1, Layman teaches a method of conveniently making a selection from a set

of options available in a computer program is described. As successive letters which make up the

proposed selection are entered, successively smaller lists of options corresponding to the entered

letters are displayed. (E.g. see Abstract and associated text). In that Layman discloses the method

that covering the steps of:

"storing a linear command regeneration template including a linear node template in a

memory;" (E.g. see col. 2:9-15 and Figure 2a-2c and associated text); and

"reconstructing said command using said linear command regeneration template and data

from a database." (E.g. see Figure 1a-1d and Figure 3 and associated text).

As per Claim 2, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Layman teaches

"storing a begin option node template in said linear node template." (E.g. see Figure 2a-2c, heading 1 and Figure 3, node 19 and associated text).

As per Claim 3, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Layman teaches

"storing a next option node template in said linear node template." (E.g. see Figure 2a-2c, subheading 2 and/or 3).

As per Claim 4, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Layman teaches

"storing an end option node template in said linear node template." (E.g. see Figure 2a, entry 4-7).

As per Claim 5, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Layman teaches "storing a begin option node template, a next option node template, and an end option node template in said linear node template." (E.g. again see Figure 2a-2c as noted above).

As per Claim 6, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Layman teaches

"filtering said linear command regeneration template to locate said linear node template." (E.g. see Figure 1a, filtering Letter 'P'; Figure 1b, filtering letters 'PE').

As per Claim 7, the rejection of claim 6 is incorporated and further Layman teaches

"scanning said linear command regeneration template to find a begin option node

template." (E.g. see Figure 3, node 15 and associated text).


As per Claim 8, the rejection of claim 7 is incorporated and further Layman teaches

"obtaining an identification of said begin option node template." (E.g. see Figure 2a-2c,

heading 1 and col. 3:16-25, heading 1).


As per Claim 9, the rejection of claim 8 is incorporated and further Layman teaches

"scanning said linear command regeneration template to find an end option node template

including said identification." (E.g. see Figure 3, node 17).


As per **Claim 10, the rejection** of claim 6 is incorporated and further Layman teaches

"passing said linear node template from said linear command regeneration template to an

evaluate branches process." (E.g. see col. 3:9-25 for deleting non match member(s)).


As per Claim 11, the rejection of claim 10 is incorporated and further Layman teaches

"evaluating at least. One branch in said linear node template from said linear command

regeneration template by said evaluate branches process." (E.g. see col. 3:9-25, branch, sub-

branch and for deleting non match member(s)).


As per Claim 12, the rejection of claim 10 is incorporated and further Layman teaches

"finding a branch in said linear node template." (E.g. see col. 3:16-25 for example

subheading 2 and/or 3).

As per Claim 13, the rejection of claim 10 is incorporated and further Layman teaches

"validating said branch using said data from said database." (E.g. see col. 3:21-25 for

valid entry 5 & 6).

As Per Claim 14, is the memory storing method claim corresponding to the method claim

1 and is rejected under the same reason set forth in connection of the rejection of claim 1. Further

Layman discloses memory (E.g. see col. 2:9-15).

As per Claims 15-24, the rejection of claim 14 are incorporated and are rejected under the

same reason set forth in connection of the rejection of claims 2-11 respectfully.

As per Claim 25, the rejection of claim 24 is incorporated and is rejected under the same

reason set forth in connection of the rejection of claim 12.

As per Claim 26, the rejection of claim 25 is incorporated and is rejected under the same

reason set forth in connection of the rejection of claim 13.

As Per Claim 27, is the network device claim corresponding to the method claim 1 and is

rejected under the same reason set forth in connection of the rejection of claim 1. Further

Layman discloses a processor (E.g. see col. 2:9-15); and a memory (E.g. see col. 2:9-15) coupled to said processor.

As per Claims 28-39, the rejection of claim 27 are incorporated and are rejected under the same reason set forth in connection of the rejection of claims 1-13 respectfully.

As Per Claim 40, is the structure claim corresponding to the method claim 1 and is rejected under the same reason set forth in connection of the rejection of claim 1.

As per Claims 41 and 43-46, the rejection of claim 40 are incorporated and are rejected under the same reason set forth in connection of the rejection of claims 2 and 4-7 respectfully.

As per Claim 42, **the rejection of claim** 41 is incorporated and is rejected under the same reason set forth in connection of the rejection of claim 3.

## *Conclusion*

3.    Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kuo-Liang J Tang whose telephone number is 703-305-4866. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 to 5:00.

> *If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's*
>
> *supervisor, Tuan Q Dam can be reached on 703-305-4552.*

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

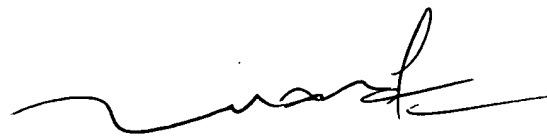Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306.

*Kuo-Liang J. Tang*

Software Engineer Patent Examiner

TUAN DAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER